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DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ARP ALSO FOR ISN/CIP/CRUSSELL AND CHERRINGTON

E.O. 12958 DECL:01/14/2019
TAGS: PARM PINS ETTC EFIN KNNP MNUC AE
SUBJECT: A.Q. KHAN DESIGNATIONS NOTIFIED TO UAE

REF: A)STATE 02540 (Pre-notification to UAEG)
B) STATE 02508 (Pending public announcement)

Classified by DCM Douglas Greene for reasons 1.4 (b), (c), and (d).

- 11. (S) As instructed reftels, Pol Chief pre-notified UAEG within a three-hour window of the impending public announcement of sanctions designations related to the A.Q. Khan network (ref A), and passed the substance of the press release at the appropriate hour (ref B). Pre-notification was made January 12 through MFA American Affairs desk officer Rowda al-Otaiba, who undertook to share the non-paper with her superiors and acknowledged the merits of pre-notification even if UAE entities were not directly sanctioned. Later that evening, at the time corresponding with the announcement in Washington, Ambassador and Pol Chief were in a conference with MFA Director of International Organizations Yacub al-Hosani, to whom we passed a copy of the press release naming the sanctioned individuals/entities.
- 12. (S) Neither interlocutor initially raised questions about the designations beyond confirming that UAE entities were not involved. Al-Hosani told us January 13 that he had already relayed the information to appropriate security and Central Bank authorities. He asked if it were possible to identify the countries with which the individuals and entities are affiliated.

OLSON